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PART II.

ESTIMATED OUT-TURN OF CERTAIN SELECTED CROPS

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM ON THE STATISTICS RELATING TO AREA AND YIELD OF PRINCIPAL CROPS.

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The estimates of out-turn of crops comprised in the following pages are based upon the Village Account Form No. 3 (Pahani Takhta).

2. In this account, the area, assessment and other particulars of each field are entered from the permanent village accounts; and for each survey number, the estimated area under each crop is entered by actual field inspection every year. The inspection is to be made twice in the year to correspond with cultivation and crop time. An abstract is subjoined to the account showing the aggregate estimated area under each of the fifteen principal crops enumerated in the prescribed form.

3. In 1897, the opportunity was taken to utilize this account for estimating the year's yield of the harvest under each of five selected crops, *viz.*, paddy, ragi, horse gram, cholum and sugar cane. It was ordered that this estimate should be made by tabulating the area under each crop in the village, in a form which was prescribed as an enclosure to the "Pahani Takhta, Village Account Form No. 3." It was directed that as a rule, that is to say, except when the Deputy Commissioner would otherwise direct under Section 10 of the Mysore Famine Code, the return should correspond with the two pahani inspections, *viz.*, once before the jamabandi about the second fortnight of October, while the crops are standing, and a second time after the cultivation season is over at the end of January following. Under these orders, the return is, in the first instance, prepared for each village by its shanbhog and submitted to the taluk office, where, after being examined, it is compiled for the entire taluk and transmitted to the Deputy Commissioner who, in his turn, submits to this office an abstract statement, talukwar, for his district before the end of April every year.

4. The out-turn is estimated for each village taken separately by the shanbhog and patel who from their intimate knowledge of the locality, may be relied upon to judge in this matter as well as possible for the purposes of a rough approximate estimate.

5. The out-turn is stated in annas, *viz.*, '20 annas,' '16 annas,' '8 annas' and '4 annas' and less which would respectively represent 'bumper,' 'average,' middling,' and 'bad harvests.'

6. The aggregate estimated area under each crop as per pahani abstract is distributed under these four classes, and arithmetically reduced to the equivalent area under a normal, that is to say, a fair average or 16 anna crop. The standard actual yield of a normal crop per acre (16 annas) in a fairly good season is fixed for the taluk as a whole, after careful local enquiry once for all, and not afterwards altered without the previous sanction of Government. The estimated out-turn for the entire taluk is calculated on this basis, and the results for the years 1911-12 and 1912-13 are exhibited in the following pages :—

(For full details of the methods, see the following standing orders on the subject :—

(1) Government Proceedings No. 6150—R. 2096, dated 9th January 1897.

(2) Government Proceedings No. 7866—R. F. 130-93, dated 10th March 1397.

(3) Government Proceedings No. 5713—R.F. 130-93, dated 21st February 1899.